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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 01095 271517 Z

52
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 RSR-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

OMB-01 DPW-01 IO-12 EA-11 /104 W
---------- 032373
R 271447 Z MAR 73
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4912
INFO USIA WASHDC

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PFOR, RO, XC
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION CURRENT POW SITUATION

1. SUMMARY: ROMANIAN PRESS OF MARCH 27 TREATS EFFECTIVE U. S. ACTION IN TEMPORARILY HALTING TROOP WITHDRAWALS IN ORDER TO SECURE RELEASE OF PRISONERS HELD IN LAOS IN INTERESTING MANNER THAT SHOWS U. S. ACTION IN FAVORABLE LIGHT. WHILE COVERAGE CONSISTS OF ESSENTIALLY STRAIGHTFORWARD PRESENTATION OF THREE STORIES REPORTING (1) HALT IN WITHDRAWALS WITH U. S. REASONS THEREFORE, (2) PATHET LAO AGREEMENT TO RELEASE PRISONERS AND (3) U. S. ANNOUNCEMENT THAT WITHDRAWALS WILL CONTINUE, TOTAL EFFECT IS TO MAKE U. S. ACTION APPEAR JUSTIFIED. END SUMMARY.

2. MARCH 27 ISSUES OF SCINTEIA AND ROMANIA LIBERA CARRY THREE STORIES, BRACKETED TOGETHER ON THEIR INTERNATIONAL PAGE, WHICH DEAL WITH LATE DEVELOPMENTS IN INDOCHINA AND WHICH PROVIDE MORE THAN ROUTINE INTEREST IN EMBASSY VIEW. FIRST OF THESE STORIES IN SCINTEIA' S VERSION, HEADED QUOTE IN CONNECTION WITH THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN TROOPS FROM SOUTH VIETNAM UNQUOTE, QUOTES ZIEGLER ANNOUNCING PRESIDENT NIXON' S DECISION TO SUSPEND TEMPORARILY THE AMERICAN TROOP WITHDRAWAL, WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN COMPLETED BY 28 MARCH. PIECE CONTINUES QUOTE THE REASON GIVEN FOR THIS DECISION WAS
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THE DEMAND OF THE AMERICAN SIDE FOR THE RELEASE OF NINE PRIS-
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
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